

***For Immediate Release***

**Millennium Biltmore Hotel Los Angeles Welcomes Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe**



**Singapore, 7 May 2015** -- Continuing its long history of hosting dignitaries from around the world, Millennium Biltmore Hotel Los Angeles welcomed Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Mrs Akie Abe who stayed at the hotel during a Japan-U.S. Economic Forum on 1 May 2015. The forum was organised by Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO). Prime Minister Abe spoke to an audience of more than 600 officials and guests during the reception and luncheon held in the hotel's Biltmore Bowl Room. He was promoting trade relations and business opportunities between Japan and the United States.

JETRO also sponsored an economic leadership panel at the hotel, whose speakers included: Thomas M. Siebel, CEO, C3Energy; Alex Gorsky, CEO, Johnson & Johnson; Daniel S. Loeb, CEO, Third Point; Fumihiko Ike, Chairman and Representative, Director, Honda Motor Co. and Chairman, Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association; Ken Kobayashi, President and CEO, Mitsubishi Corporation; Yuzaburo Mogi, Honorary CEO and Chairman of the Board, Kikkoman Corporation; and Hiroyuki Ishige, Chairman and CEO, JETRO.

U.S. Ambassador to Japan Caroline Kennedy and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti also spoke briefly during the events.

Millennium Biltmore Hotel Los Angeles is no stranger to hosting renowned personalities from world leaders to Hollywood's top celebrities who call the hotel home during their many annual visits. The 683-room landmark property offers unrivalled historic grandeur and modern luxury in the heart of downtown Los Angeles, near cultural attractions such as L.A. Live, Walt Disney Concert Hall, Dodger Stadium and the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Over its 92 year history, the iconic hotel has been frequented by celebrities, presidents, artists and dignitaries. It has hosted film and television productions as well as the Academy Awards. Eight Oscar ceremonies were held in the Biltmore Bowl Room during the Academy's early years between 1931 and 1942.

Earlier this year, Millennium & Copthorne Hotels (M&C) which has a portfolio of 14 hotels across North America, announced plans to refurbish all 683 guest rooms and suites of the Millennium Biltmore. The renovations are done in phases and will cost US\$8.5 million (approximately S\$11.3 million).

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